



AUSTIN CODE DEPARTMENT

Lake Austin Boat Dock Registration Program

Phased Program Launch— Beginning July 16, 2018

Purpose and Objectives: The purpose of the Lake Austin Boat Dock Registration Program is to improve boat dock visibility for public safety personnel on the lake when responding to emergency calls for service. This program was established in response to Austin City Council Resolution No. 20130829-078, adopted on August 29, 2013. Phased implementation of the boat dock registration program is scheduled to launch July 16, 2018.

For More Information

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Phase 1. Public and Lake Austin Property Owner Education

Launch Date: July 16, 2018 – Ongoing

The Austin Code Department (ACD) will conduct targeted program information and educational sessions with Lake Austin property owners and the general public. The educational strategies will include basic information on applicable ordinances and the Boat Dock Registration Program implementation phases and timelines. In addition to the educational outreach, the public will be able to access information online and through the ACD Code Connect Line, a dedicated phone line accessible Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phase 2. Boat Dock Registration Grace Period

Proposed Launch Date: July 16, 2018 through September 30, 2018

A boat dock registration grace period will be extended to the public beginning July 16, 2018 through September 30, 2018 to allow ample time for boat dock owners to apply, register and install the required boat dock identification tags. There will be no fee required for boat dock registration, if completed before October 1, 2019. The registration process for existing boat docks is as follows:

- a. Property owners will submit a complete application, including date-stamped photos of the boat docks registration identification and address tag, demonstrating compliance.
- b. ACD will conduct signage and safety compliance inspections as required by dock type and per application submittal.
- c. ACD will issue a Boat Dock Registration Confirmation letter to the property owner confirming all registration requirements have been satisfied.
- d. Property Maintenance Requirements: In consideration of natural wear and tear that may occur over the years on the dock structure and/or placement of identification tags, property

maintenance shall be performed in compliance with the Locally Amended International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC).

- e. Boat Dock Registration Periods: A visual inspection of Lake Austin boat docks will be required as a condition of registration renewal to confirm ongoing compliance with City code, as follows: Residential Boat Docks - Registration renewal will be required every 5 years; Commercial Docks - Registration renewal will be required every 2 years.

During each phase of implementation of the Lake Austin Boat Dock Registration Program, ACD will utilize GPS data provided during the 2015 survey to ensure that all docks have been registered.

Phase 3. Boat Dock Registration Compliance Verification

Proposed Launch Date: October 1, 2018

Once the grace period expires, ACD will schedule and conduct proactive compliance verification inspections of Lake Austin by quadrant (or zone) to determine if boat dock registration identification and address tags are installed in compliance with the minimum standards established by the program. Quadrants 1 and 2 will be inspected beginning October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Inspection of Quadrants 3 and 4 will be performed January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019. During this period, boat docks found to be in violation will be issued a *Compliance Reminder Notification* to educate and remind boat dock owners of the ordinance requirements for registration.

Phase 4. Enforcement of Boat Dock Registration Program

Proposed Launch Date: April 1, 2019

Beginning April 1, 2019, boat dock owners that fail to voluntarily comply within the grace period will be issued a Notice of Violation (NOV). If compliance is not achieved within the specified timeframe, the owner will be subject to progressive code enforcement, including assessed penalties ranging from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00 per violation.

Phase 5. Implement Boat Dock Registration Fee

Proposed Launch Date: October 1, 2019

No registration fee will be required for the first year, to allow for a cost analysis to determine an appropriate fee; however, ACD will track and report program registration costs throughout the year. The department will propose a boat dock registration fee, to be implemented on October 1, 2019, at which point most docks are expected to have achieved compliance.

New Boat Dock Construction/Re-Model

Development Services Department (DSD) is responsible for issuing permits for the new construction of boat docks, or re-model of existing boat docks, per Section §25-2-1173 of the City code.